

## USM Women & Gender Studies

Hello all,

A signature program at USM—the first and still the most robust Women's Studies program in the state—USM WGS prides itself on our scholarly excellence and our contemporary relevance: as a capstone project, students either write a thesis supervised by a team of interdisciplinary scholars, or spend a semester working with one of our many community partners, of which we have over fifty. Our program, moreover, is deeply embedded in movements for regional and national social justice, a stance embodied in this year's Women's History Month keynote speaker, Alicia Garza.

Ms. Garza is co-founder of #BlackLivesMatter; she describes the Blacks Lives Matter movement as “an affirmation of Black folks' contributions to this society, our humanity, and our resilience in the face of deadly oppression.” WGS partnered with USM Center for Sexualities and Gender Diversity, Multicultural Student Affairs, Gender Studies Student Organization, Office of the Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education, Southern Maine Workers' Center, NAACP Portland Branch, Black Education & Cultural History, and the King Fellows to bring her here on March 27. We were honored by the crowd who turned up at Hannaford Hall on that special night.

We're also happy to report that our program continues to add majors. That good news, however, brings with it the departure of several students, who will be graduating in May. Please join us for a celebration of their research on April 27 in the University Events Room, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor Glickman Library (Portland Campus) at 5:00 PM, followed by a celebratory reception & awards presentation at 6:00 PM.

Please take a look at our varied and lively course offerings for Fall 2015! And, as always, feel free to drop by 94 Bedford Street.

All the best,  
Lucinda Cole  
Director, Women and Gender Studies  
Associate Professor, Department of English

### CONTENTS

- 1 Director's Welcome
- 2 Major/Minor & Core
- 3 GSSO Update
- 3 Student Life Update
- 5-6 Alum Updates
- 7 Affiliated Scholars Program
- 8-10 Fall 2014 Courses

**Fall 2015  
registration begins  
April 13.**

Women & Gender  
Studies courses  
are now found in  
Mainstreet under  
WGS (not WST)!

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94 Bedford Street, Portland Campus

M-F 8:00 – 4:30

(207) 780-4862    [WGS@usm.maine.edu](mailto:WGS@usm.maine.edu)

<http://www.usm.maine.edu/WGS>

FB: USM WGS & USM Women and Gender Studies / Youtube: USMWGS

## REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MAJOR AND THE MINOR

### 14 courses are required for the WGS major:

6 core courses:

WGS 101 Intro to Women and Gender Studies

or

EYE 109 Gender, Representation and Resistance

and

WGS 201 Women, Knowledge and Power

WGS 380 Politics of Difference

WGS 390 Contemporary Feminist Theories

WGS 490 Capstone Experience

WGS 485 Internship

or

WGS 486 Thesis

and

2 WGS topics courses from among these categories:

Science, Technology and Health

Culture and the Arts

History and Resistance

Gender and Institutions

and

6 approved gender-related elective courses

a list is available at

[www.usm.maine.edu/wgs/courses](http://www.usm.maine.edu/wgs/courses)

### 6 courses are required for the WGS minor:

1 core course at the 100-level:

WGS 101 Intro to Women and Gender Studies

or

EYE 109 Gender, Representation and Resistance

and

1 core course at the 200-level:

WGS 201 Women, Knowledge and Power

1 core course at the 300-level:

WGS 380 Politics of Difference

or

WGS 390 Contemporary Feminist Theories

and

3 approved gender-related elective courses:

a list is available at:

[www.usm.maine.edu/wgs/courses](http://www.usm.maine.edu/wgs/courses)

## Fulfilling your Core Courses with WGS

### Entry Year Experience:

EYE 109 "Gender, Representation, and Resistance"

**EYE 109 "Gender, Representation, and Resistance"** Drawing on many disciplines, EYE 109 asks, what is gender and how is it represented historically and cross-culturally? Students consider the impact of mass media, education and political discourse on gender construction, and explore the liberating power of pleasure. Books assigned for this course may include: *Gender* by R.W. Connell, *Woman at Point Zero* by Nawal El Saadawi, and *Guerrilla Girls Bedside Companion to the History of Western Art* by the Guerrilla Girls

### Socio-Cultural Analysis:

WGS 101 "Introduction to Women and Gender Studies"

**WGS 101 "Introduction to Women and Gender Studies"** This course considers the economic, political, and social status of women and men and how ideas about femininity/masculinity and feminism are promoted through the media and other vehicles of culture. Books used by this course have included: *Reviving Ophelia: Saving the Selves of Adolescent Girls* by Mary Pipher, *Dude, You're a Fag* by C. J. Pascoe and *Feminist Frontiers* by Richardson, Taylor & Whittier.

### Cultural Interpretations:

WGS 201 "Women, Knowledge and Power"

**WGS 201 "Women, Knowledge and Power"** examines the relationship between gender, assumptions about truth, and the ways both affect how we experience the world. Books from past sections of the course have included: *The Creation of Feminist Consciousness* by Gerda Lerner, *A Room of One's Own* by Virginia Woolf, *Handmaid's Tale* by Margaret Atwood, and *Black Feminist Thought* by Patricia Hill Collins.

### Ethical Inquiry, Social Responsibility & Citizenship:

WGS 380 "Politics of Difference"

**WGS 380 "Politics of Difference"** explores some of the consequences of using such identity categories as race, nationality, religion, and sex to shape culture and gender relations within it. Books assigned for this course have included: *Gender Outlaw* by Kate Bornstein, *How Does it Feel to be a Problem* by Moustafa Bayoumi, *Hatreds* by Zillah Eisenstein and *Iran Awakening* by Shireen Ebadi.

### Diversity:

WGS 201: Women, Knowledge and Power

AND

WGS 390 "Contemporary Feminist Theories"

**WGS 390 "Contemporary Feminist Theories"** introduces students to such feminist theoretical approaches as post-structuralism, Marxism, psychoanalysis, critical race theory, and post-colonialism. The focus of the course is the intimate relationships between feminist theories and feminist practices, locally and globally.

In addition, many WGS courses also satisfy the International requirement and a WGS minor satisfies the "Cluster" requirement.

Visit: <http://www.usm.maine.edu/wgs/course-list>

# G S S O

The Gender Studies Student Organization is a group for students who are interested in gender and feminist politics. We are anti-racist, queer friendly, and open to all students! We organize panel discussions, workshops and other events that examine contemporary social issues through a gender-conscious lens. This semester, we are collaborating with a variety of groups on and off campus, including the Center for Sexuality and Gender Diversity, Maine Educationalists for Sexual Harmony (MESH) in Portland, and College of the Atlantic in Bar Harbor. Our first event will be a collaborative sex positive event with MESH, and a trip to the Translating Identity Conference in Burlington, VT! Our meetings are Mondays from 2-3pm in the Women and Gender Studies House on the Portland campus, with rotating meetings in Gorham (location TBD). Contact Jules Purnell for details: [jules.purnell@maine.edu](mailto:jules.purnell@maine.edu)



## Student Life @ USM:

Providing Student Support, Connection and Engagement

On both the Portland and Gorham campuses, **The Well – USM's Community Wellness Centers** (151 Upton Hall, Gorham and 143A Woodbury Campus Center, Portland) is a hub of student support, connection and engagement. The Well also helps students connect to the **Campus Safety Project**, a university-wide initiative that promotes healthy relationships at USM by providing prevention education and response training on sexual assault, stalking, and relationship abuse for students, faculty, and staff. It also coordinates campus and community-based programs and services.

Diversity continues to be a strong component of student life at USM, and the Woodbury Campus Center houses centers and offices devoted to extending this education and support across the university: **Center for Sexualities and Gender Diversity**, **Multicultural Student Affairs**, **Religious and Spiritual Life**, and the **Veterans Resource Center**.

The Well - <http://www.usm.maine.edu/studentlife/thewell>

Campus Safety Project - <http://usm.maine.edu/campusafetyproject>

Center for Sexualities and Gender Diversity - <http://www.usm.maine.edu/csgd>

Multicultural Student Affairs - <http://www.usm.maine.edu/mcsa>

Religious and Spiritual Life - <http://www.usm.maine.edu/interfaith>

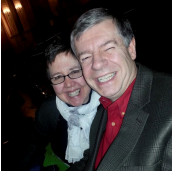
Veterans Resource Center - <http://www.usm.maine.edu/veterans/veterans-resource-center>



## Answering the Question:

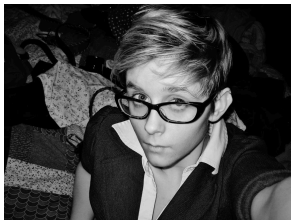
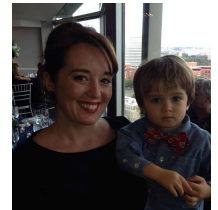
"What can you do with a degree in Women and Gender Studies?"

# Alumni Updates



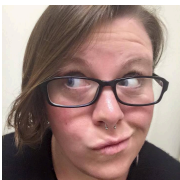
Sue Aden '05 is working for Professional Disability Associates doing Corporate and TPA Licensing and is learning FMLA. She has ninety months before retirement at which time she is thinking about getting another degree in Sociology while hanging out with her sassy and smart grand daughter. "Life is good."

Alicia Allen '06 finished a 450-hour classical Pilates teacher training in 2014 and is teaching at Springboard Pilates in Portland. When she's not thinking about the cultural reasons for and social implications of functional anatomy imbalances (once a Women and Gender Studies student always a Women and Gender Studies student), she can be found with her two-year old son, and her partner Lauren.



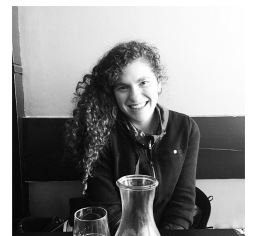
Paige Barker is serving as an Americorps VISTA volunteer with Kennebec Valley Community Action Program in Waterville, Maine. Her most recent accomplishment is the successful launch of an anti-poverty initiative that keeps people from slipping between the cracks of other support services in the area. In addition to her full-time volunteering position, Paige donates her time to a local yoga studio and an art gallery. When she isn't volunteering, Paige is teaching herself to play guitar, deepening her yoga practice, making art, and dabbling in Buddhism.

This last winter, Julia Davidson '08 after 2 years as an advocate at the organization was promoted to Sexual Assault Response Team Program Manager at Sexual Assault Response Services of Southern Maine. In this role she serves as the co-chair of the Greater Portland Coalition Against Sex Trafficking and Exploitation. She is excited to launch in March the first local LGBTQ+ support group for survivors of sexual or domestic violence. As a volunteer she serves on the board of directors of the Maine Transgender Network. Newly engaged to her long-term partner, she is baffled by wedding culture and trying to figure out how to have a fun and feminist event with family and friends. Julia was awarded the title of Outstanding Graduate of the USM Women and Gender Studies Program in 2013.



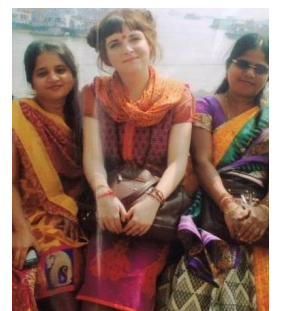
Kelsea Dunham '14 is enjoying her position as Coordinator of Development and Communications at The Opportunity Alliance. In her now copious amounts of spare time, she enjoys crafting, working on her New Year's Resolution of reading all Stephen King's novels in a year, and applying a feminist lens to the pop culture she's consuming.

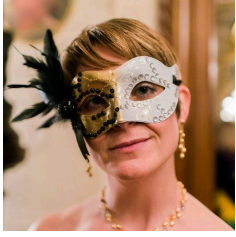
Leah Farber '13 is excited about her volunteer work with adult language learners here in Portland. She teaches an ESOL class to adult New Mainers at Learning Works and runs an English conversation group for immigrants, asylees, and refugees through the YMCA. She serves as secretary to the Board of Directors for Maine Roller Derby where she is also a league member. She skates under the alias Cabbage Smash Kid. Leah is grateful for her job as a server where she is able to refine her people skills, wine knowledge, and plate carrying. She is currently reading Joan of Arc: A Life Transfigured by Kathryn Harrison and listening to feminist hip-hop favorite "Souffle" by Dai Burger.



Christina Hart is a USM WGS alum from 2011 and a prior graduate from the college of nursing at USM in 2006. Since graduation, she worked for 8 years on a medical-surgical floor at Maine Medical Center (MMC) and this year started an internship with the Operating Room at MMC where she will get certified as an operating room circulating nurse. She remains active in the LGBTQA community: involved with Maine Transgender Network since its beginnings, she now resides on the board of directors as its treasurer. Free time is spent being a mom to two lovely pit bulls and one ornery kitty. Christina also runs recreationally and participates in 5 and 10ks for charity events.

Katherine Hult '12 is currently serving as a fundraising volunteer at Sankalp Rehabilitation Trust, a non-profit non-governmental organization working in drug addiction recovery and HIV/Hep-C prevention for injection drug users in and around Mumbai, India. In 2014 Katherine was awarded the Omprakash Ambassador Grant to help fund trip to India and is currently recording her experiences on the Omprakash website blog. Before her departure Katherine worked as a Community Health Promotions Specialist in the Needle Exchange Program at the India Street Public Health Clinic; before that she worked as a Housing Support Caseworker at Preble Street's Florence House women's shelter. In her free time, she plays guitar and sings in an all girl post-punk band, BABE, DJs dance parties under the name KTTN MTTNZ, rescues sick cats, and does lots of yoga.





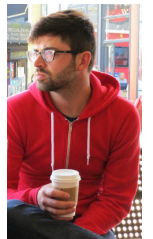
Lauren Webster LaFrance '02 is an enthusiastic founding member of the Gaslight League, a social club organized to benefit Victoria Mansion—National Historic Landmark in Portland, ME—and serves on its steering committee; an effort she subtitles "cocktails for a good cause—parties for a purpose." Her other volunteer pursuits include being Trustee for the Victoria Mansion Board, a Wellness Ambassador and a Professional Staff Association Board Member at USM where she is employed as the Assistant to the Director of Women & Gender Studies. In her leisure time, Lauren plans, throws and attends parties; organizes a book club; designs beaded jewelry; renovates her 1908 home DIY-style; and practices extreme, novice gardening/landscaping

Hilary Manuel '09 has recently joined the University of New England's Institutional Advancement department acting as Advancement Coordinator, managing ongoing projects and governmental relations. She is thrilled to be working in the Portland area! Hilary also volunteers with the Junior League of Portland, serving as the media specialist. She performs with the Naked Shakespeare ensemble, and will be performing at several upcoming First Friday events.



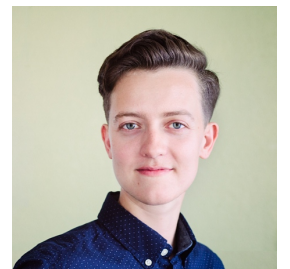
Since graduating from USM with a degree in Women and Gender Studies in 2014 Olivia Loneman Meyer went on to graduate school to study Human Sexuality at Widener University, where she will receive a Masters of Education in Spring of 2016. She hopes to use that degree to get a gig teaching sex education, body positivity, and gender variance concepts at the college level. Olivia lives in Philadelphia with her husband Graham and their new baby Roxanne.

Steffan Morin left WGS in 2007 and headed to San Francisco where he earned his MA in Sexuality Studies from San Francisco State University; his thesis explored gay men's relationships to pornography. Still in San Francisco, Steffan works with a small good food business, Bi-Rite Market, focusing on linking Northern California farmers and food producers with consumers in the Bay Area. Though he's not working in a field directly related to WGS, Steffan learned a ton of leadership skills during his WGS time that inform his work each day. Steffan lives in the Lower Haight with his partner Stan.



Grace Mueller (minor) '09 is completing her last semester of the post-baccalaureate premedical program at Washington University in Saint Louis and will be applying to medical school in June, with the goal of becoming a radical gynecologist and abortion provider. When not in class or studying for the MCAT, she works for the director of the Midwest Alcoholism Research Center and volunteers with Health Protection & Education Services, an organization that provides free monthly health screenings to the general Saint Louis community.

Emily Paine '12 is a second year doctoral student in the Sociology department, a trainee of the Population Research Center, and a LGBTQ/Sexualities doctoral portfolio student at the University of Texas at Austin. At UT, she studies the interplay among sexual, racial, and gender identities, social institutions like the health care system, social movements and health. Emily has presented her work at the annual meetings of the American Sociological Association, the Society for the Study of Social Problems, and the National Women's Studies Association. She is now writing her master's thesis on racially and age diverse LGBTQ individuals' experiences of health care within different health settings.



Kristen Stake '01 worked in the Portland nonprofit sector for ten years, during which she earned an MFA in Poetry Writing from Vermont College. She then went on to study dance improvisation and massage therapy in Western Mass from 2009-2013. She now owns her own business as a Thai Massage therapist in Portland.

# Women and Gender Studies graduates make a world of difference!

## About the WGSAA

Founded in 2009, the USM's Women and Gender Studies Alumnae/i Association (WGSAA) was created to provide a continuous learning community for graduates of the program. The association works to reunite graduates, faculty, and friends (both locally and afar) through a range of social and educational activities and events, as well as through our Facebook Group page (USM's Women and Gender Studies Alumnae Association) and e-mail listserv (wgsalum-L@usm.maine.edu) The association is also intended to shed light on the wonderful work alumni are doing post-graduation and to help build stronger networks within the University and greater community. The Association works to represent our degree program, playing an integral part in supporting WGS and encouraging current and incoming students. Find us at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/274494746441/>



## Women & Gender Studies SUMMER SESSION Course Listing

### **WGS 101: Introduction to Women & Gender Studies**

**Online**                **05/11/15 – 06/05/15**                **Prof. Sarah Lockridge**

**Online**                **06/29/15 – 08/14/15**                **Prof. Sarah Lockridge**

This course explores from a variety of perspectives the following inter-related themes and topics: the economic, political, and social status of women as a group and in discrete cultural contexts; the politics of representation, or how ideas about femininity and feminism are promoted throughout the media and other vehicles of culture; the construction of "consciousness," both through the media and through feminist tactics; women and collective action in the past, present, and future. This course is writing intensive; students are expected to practice their writing skills through formal essays. Offered every semester. 3 credits

### **WGS 245: Philosophy of Art**

**Online**                **06/29/15 – 08/14/15**                **Prof. Kathleen Wininger**

What makes a person creative? What do artists think about their art? How do critics evaluate a work? If art is created for a cultural ritual or healing, is it to be understood differently? How do the circumstances of a work's creation and reception affect its evaluation? How does a person's class, ethnicity, or gender influence art work and its reception? Philosophers in the field of Aesthetics attempt to answer questions that artists, art historians, anthropologists, and critics ask about art. The works of art and philosophy considered will be drawn from a wide variety of cultural contexts. 3 credits

### **WGS 365: Gender & Aging**

**Online**                **06/29/15 – 08/14/15**                **Prof. Susan Fineran**

This course is designed to inform students about aging issues that differentially affect women and men. Students will analyze the sources and manifestations of both healthy and problematic aging and apply concepts drawn from the behavioral and social sciences, and from clinical and community practice. This course will incorporate knowledge of the bio-psycho-social aspects of the aging process and the interplay of interpersonal, environmental and cultural forces that influence aging. Students are expected to acquire skills in assessing individual behavior of older persons based on application of theoretical ideas to contemporary situations and enhance their human service practice with older adults and their families. Service Learning experience may be available to undergraduate students in the course (10 hours). 3 credits

## Women & Gender Studies FALL 2015 Course Listings

### **WGS 101: Introduction to Women & Gender Studies**

**Gorham**                **M/W 11:00AM-12:15PM**                **Prof. Sarah Lockridge**

**Portland**                **T/TH 11:45-1:00PM**                **Prof. Susan Feiner**

**Online**                **Prof. Sarah Lockridge**

**Online**                **Prof. Andrea Breau**

This course explores from a variety of perspectives the following inter-related themes and topics: the economic, political, and social status of women as a group and in discrete cultural contexts; the politics of representation, or how ideas about femininity and feminism are promoted throughout the media and other vehicles of culture; the construction of "consciousness," both through the media and through feminist tactics; women and collective action in the past, present, and future. Students are expected to practice their writing skills through formal essays. Satisfies core requirement for socio-cultural analysis. 3 credits

### **WGS 201: Women, Knowledge & Power: Women, Medicine and Gothic Fiction**

**Portland**                **M/W 2:45-4:00PM**                **Prof. Lisa Walker**

Gothic literature, known for mystery, monsters, and ghosts, emerged in late 18<sup>th</sup> century. It had its heyday in the Victorian era, but it continues today in genres such as science fiction and horror, and in postcolonial and postmodern literatures. Frequently portraying pursued heroines, suffering bodies and tortured minds, the Gothic is a fascinating place to explore intersections of literature, medicine, and gender. This course will focus on how Gothic fiction from the 18<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup> century depicts women as both regulated by and resistant to medical discourses of hysteria, contagion, madness, and reproduction. It will explore Gothic representations of how medicine, science and technology classify bodies in the service of controlling disease, healing the sick, and civilizing the world. In particular, it will study how female characters intervene in this nexus of knowledge and power. A strong emphasis on the formal elements of fiction, including narrative structure, symbolism, theme, and setting, will help students understand how fictional texts work. Prerequisites: WGS 101, EYE 109 or permission of instructor. Satisfies core requirement for cultural interpretations. 3 credits

### **WGS 245/PHI 221: Philosophy of Art**

**Portland**                **T 4:10-6:40PM**                **Prof. Kate Wininger**

**Online**                **08/31/15 – 10/20/15**                **Prof. Kate Wininger**

What makes a person creative? What do artists think about their art? How do critics evaluate a work? If art is created for a cultural ritual or healing, is it to be understood differently? How do the circumstances of a work's creation and reception affect its evaluation? How does a person's class, ethnicity, or gender influence art work and its reception? Philosophers in the field of Aesthetics attempt to answer questions which artists, art historians, anthropologists, and critics ask about art. The works of art and philosophy considered will be drawn from a wide variety of cultural contexts. 3 credits



### **WGS 265/ANT 255: Cultures of Africa**

**Online**                **Prof. Sarah Lockridge**

Africa is a vast continent rich in cultural diversity. This course will explore a variety of African people and cultures south of the Sahara. Students will read ethnographic case studies about small-scale communities, focusing on interrelated issues such as music, religion, politics, economics, geography, ethnicity, and gender. The course will consider the effects of colonial periods on indigenous populations but will emphasize post-independence Africans. Students will explore the power and perseverance of African people and their cultures. \*\*Fulfills WGS Non-Western Requirement\*\*

**WGS 320: Recent Theories on Gender & Sexuality****Portland****T/TH 2:45-4:00PM****Prof. Shelton Waldrep**

We will examine some of the major concepts about gender and sexuality on the current scene. Topics that we will trace in detail include the institutional history of lesbian and gay studies; the relationship of feminism to sexuality; the application of theories of sexuality to literary and/or cultural analysis; the impact of AIDS; and the future of Queer Studies as a discipline or sub-specialty within the academy and without. 3 credits

**WGS 320: Qualitative Research Methods****Portland****M 4:10-6:40PM****Prof. Wendy Chapkis**

This course provides an overview of the process of social research utilizing qualitative methods. Topics include the logic and principles of the research process, as well as specific techniques in qualitative research (e.g., writing field notes, conducting interviews, analyzing qualitative data). Prerequisite: SOC 210 with a grade of C or better or permission of instructor. Cr 3. \*\*Suggested for all WGS students who are interested in writing a thesis.

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**WGS 335: Sociology of the Body****Portland****W 4:10-6:40PM****Prof. Wendy Chapkis**

This course examines the body as a text marked by, and rendered meaningful through, social categories of race, gender, class, sexuality, disability, and disease. This writing- and reading-intensive course discusses both social constructionist and biological determinist perspectives on embodied difference. Prerequisites: SOC 210 with C or better and one or more of SOC 300, SOC 316, WST 380, WST 390. 3 credits

**WGS 345: Cinema & Women****Online****08/31/15 – 12/18/15****Prof. Rebecca Lockridge**

This course examines representations of women in feature-length films produced in the US and in other countries around the globe between 1960 and the present. Some of the films discussed will offer resistance to social, political and intellectual marginalizing and silencing in patriarchal cultures; others are embedded in it. Students will explore these differences through scholarly research on the films or the topics they raise. The course is also designed to increase media literacy; students learn to recognize the interface between technology, culture, media, and politics as they appear both in narrative structure and in cinematic techniques; shot distance, camera angle, lighting, perspective, editing, montage of visual rhetoric. 3 credits

**WGS 345: Race & Gender at Century's End****Online****08/31/15 – 12/18/15****Prof. Lisa Walker**

Race and gender are currently understood as social constructs and even fictions, but throughout U.S. history they have been also been understood as factual, and their effects have been experienced as far-reaching and real. This course explores how issues of race and gender were understood in America from about 1890 to about 1914, with some discussion of the uses and limitations of these concepts at the turn of the 20th century. We will focus on race, especially as it pertains to the differences between "black" and "white" and its intersections with gender and sexuality through readings of short stories, essays, and novels; we will supplement our readings with analyses of short film clips and visual images. 3 credits

**WGS 355: Women in US History****Portland****T/Th 1:15-2:30PM****Prof. Eileen Eagan**

This course examines the social, economic, and political history of women in the United States from about 1700 to 1980. Specifically this class will focus on the movements in which women (and their male allies) engaged to improve their position-- that is, to win equality, freedom, and a decent economic condition. Because not all women, or groups of women, have had the same history we will also examine the role that class, race, ethnicity and other factors played in shaping women's lives and the way women have written about their lives. Since this is a History course we will examine the ways in which the history of women has been constructed and represented: in textbooks, films, popular culture and historical monuments and sites. In particular we will look at the role of individual historians, especially those who have examined the ties between women in the US. and women in the world. 3 credits

**WGS 365: Gender & Crime****Portland****M 4:10-6:40PM****Prof. Jim Messerschmidt****Portland****T 4:10-6:40PM****Prof. Jim Messerschmidt**

This course concentrates on gender and its relation to crime. It explores such issues as histories of gender inequality, the gendered character of criminological theory, and how gender is related to a variety of crimes such as rape, violence in the family, crimes by women, property crimes, and corporate crimes. 3 credits

**WGS 380: The Politics of Difference****Portland****T 4:10-6:40PM****Prof. Wendy Chapkis**

Central to the course are the ways that "differences" are embedded and enacted in the context of power relations. While the specific content of this course is flexible, it will analyze the advantages and disadvantages of using race, ethnicity, nationality, class, age, and sexuality as categories of analysis. Prerequisites: WST 101I or EYE 109, WST 201 or permission of the instructor. Offered fall semester. 3 credits

**WST 470: Independent Study****Prof. Varies**

This course provides junior and senior students with the opportunity to pursue a project independently, concentrate on a particular subject of concern, or conduct individually arranged reading or research studies under the advice and direction of a faculty member. Prerequisite: junior or senior standing and permission of the director. 1-4 credits

Internship Partners	
Animal Refuge League	The Community Connector/Mainely Parents
The Art Department	
Big Brothers, Big Sisters	Maine Volunteer Lawyers Project
Caring Unlimited	Maine Women's Fund
The Center for Grieving Children	
Coastal Studies for Girls	Maine Women's Policy Center
Community Mentoring	
East End Children's Workshop	NAACP
Edmund S. Muskie School of Public Service	National Organization for Women
Environment Maine	Outright
Equality Maine	Peace Action Maine
Family Crisis Services	Planned Parenthood of Northern New England
Frannie Peabody Center	
Youth Alternatives - Ingraham Heritage House	PROP
Kids First Center	Prysm
League of Women Voters of Maine	Sexual Assault Response Services
Learning Works	Shalom House
Long Creek Youth Development center	United Way of Greater Portland
Local Self-Reliance - New Rules Project	Women In Need Industries
McAuley Residence	Women, Work and Community
Maine Civil Liberties Union	Youth and Family Outreach
Maine Humanities	YMCA
Maine People's Alliance	

Local WGS Alumni Employers include:
Family Crisis Services
Planned Parenthood
Frannie Peabody Center
Gay-Straight Alliance Network
Americorps
L L Bean
Maine Chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness
The Opportunity Alliance

## Women & Gender Studies



Maine's first and still most robust Women's Studies program, WGS at USM offers students the opportunity to study the lives, ideas, and actions of women throughout history, to explore new ways of thinking about gender, and to participate meaningfully in the Greater Portland community of scholars, writers, artists, health workers, politicians, and activists. A signature program at USM, Women and Gender Studies prides itself on both its scholarly excellence and on its contemporary relevance; our students may write a thesis supervised by an interdisciplinary committee or, as part of their capstone experience, they may spend a semester working with one of our many community partners (left and below). In either case, USM students have the benefit of a first-rate education by active, publishing scholars with connections to a wide academic network, along with access to regional and statewide businesses and non-profit organizations.

Recent Event Programming Partners	
Maine Humanities Council	Maine Women's Studies Consortium
Planned Parenthood of Northern New England	Maine Children's Film Festival
Maine Choice Coalition	University of Maine Librarian Professorship
USM ADVANCE Catalyst grant devoted to the role of women in the sciences	Campus Safety Project
Southworth Planetarium	UNE/Addverb Production
Sexual Assault Services Southern Maine	Boys to Men
Maine Holocaust & Human Rights Center	Family Crisis Center
Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center	United Way Portland
Maine Women's Policy Center	Maine Women's Fund
Sampson Diversity Center	The Telling Room
Maine National Association for the Advancement of Colored People	Hardy Girls Healthy Women
	SMCC Gender Equity Committee
	Portland Museum of Art
	The Bluestocking Film Series

Recent graduates have continued their education at:
Northeastern University School of Law
San Francisco State University
Simmons College
Northwestern University
University of Texas at Austin
New York University
Washington University Pre-Med